

# Richard Swanson



## *Love Remembers*

**Leo Richard Swanson Jr.**, 72 of Devils Lake, NID died unexpectedly doing what he loved to do, working for the family business on Saturday, September 23, 2023.

Leo Richard Swanson Jr. was born on August 1, 1951 at Ozark, Alabama, the son of Leo and Ruth (Romdalyvik) Swanson. Richard graduated from Devils Lake Central in the class of 1970. He was a competitive athlete in Track, Football, and Wrestling. He attended Lake Region Junior College hoping to one day pursue a career in architecture. He was called to help on the mail route with the families contract with the United States Postal Service for a few years. Richard married Nancy (Heisler) Swanson in 1973 and later divorced. Richard began his lifelong career with Swanson's Sand and Gravel in the fall of 1973. Richards passion was climbing into his truck and delivering product to his customers, which he was able to do until he left us. He formed many relationships over the years of working with several of the same customers, he always wanted to make sure they got what they needed when they needed it.

Richard's friends were also very special to him, he always loved to share a good conversation over a cup of coffee. He enjoyed so many of the waitresses and had something funny to say just waiting for a response from them. You would be able to find him at the Whitehouse or Hardee's sometime during the day catching up on the daily happenings. No matter how busy he was he always made time for coffee time.

We are thankful for the many years we had Richard as our father, grandfather, great grandfather, brother, uncle, and dear friend. He will be forever loved and forever in our hearts.

Richards loving family include his children Amy Lee of Devils Lake, Todd Swanson of Devils Lake, and Ryan Swanson of Park River; Grandchildren Seth Lang of Grand Forks, Brandon (Anna) Swanson of Exton, PA, Austin Lee and Brady Lee both of Devils Lake; Great Grandsons Ben Swanson, Kyzer Lee, and Leo Lee; Nephews Chris Bakken, Jason (Elise) Swanson, Jeremy (Lindsey) Swanson; Nieces Coty (Dave) Bakken, Sandra Johnston, Melissa Johnston, Jade Johnston, Jennifer Swanson; Brother Gene (Lori) Swanson of Devils Lake, Sister Patty (Eugene) Bakken of Devils Lake.

Richard was preceded in death by his parents.



## **I AM ALWAYS WITH YOU**

I am always with you

When I am gone, release me – let me go

I have so many things to see and do.

You must not tie yourself to me with too many tears  
But be thankful we had so many years.

I gave you my love, and you can only guess,  
how much you've given me in happiness.

I thank you for the love you have shown,  
but now it is time I travelled on alone.

So grieve for me awhile, if grieve you must,  
Then let your grief be comforted by trust

That it is only for a while that we must part  
So treasure the memories within your heart.

I will not be far away, for life goes on.

And if you need me, call and I will come.

Though you can't see or touch me, I will be near

And if you listen with your heart, you will hear

All of my love around you, soft and clear.

And then, when you come this way alone,

I'll greet you with a smile and a "Welcome Home"

*Forever Loved, Forever In Our Hearts*

## ***Leo Richard Swanson Jr.***

### **HIS BIRTH**

*Wednesday, August 1, 1951*

*Ozark, Alabama*

### **HIS DEATH**

*Saturday, September 23, 2023*

*At his home, Devils Lake, North Dakota*

### **TIME OF PRAYER AND REMEMBRANCE**

*Gilbertson Funeral Home Chapel*

*Devils Lake, North Dakota*

*Thursday, September 28, 2023 ~ 7:00 p.m.*

### **FUNERAL SERVICE**

*Bethel Evangelical Free Church*

*Devils Lake, North Dakota*

*Friday, September 29, 2023 ~ 2:00 p.m.*

### **OFFICIANT**

*Pastor Jeff Kapelle*

### **READING SCRIPTURE**

*Coty Bakken*

### **SPECIAL MUSIC**

*Recordings chosen by the family*

*"I Will Rise" ~ Chris Tomlin*

*"Fathers and Daughters" ~ Michael Bolton*

*"The Other Side" ~ Colton Dixon*

*"Jealous of the Angels" ~ Donna Taggart*

### **CASKET BEARERS**

*Jeremy Swanson ~ Jason Swanson*

*Chris Bakken ~ Austin Lee ~ Brady Lee*

*Seth Lang ~ Brandon Swanson*

*Dean Borstad ~ Hunter Borstad*

### **EARTHLY PLACE OF REST**

*Devils Lake Cemetery*

*Devils Lake, North Dakota*